

**BOROUGH OF DUMONT
BERGEN COUNTY, N.J.
PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES
DECEMBER 21, 2010
7:00 PM**

Flag Salute; Silent Prayer

Sunshine Law: The notice requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act of the State of New Jersey have been satisfied by the inclusion of the date, time and place of this regular meeting in the annual schedule and notice of regular meetings of this Governing Body. Such annual schedule and notice of regular meetings is posted at Borough Hall, was sent to *The Record* and the *Press Journal*, posted on the Borough website and filed with the Borough of Dumont.

Roll Call:

Council members Carrick, Caspare, Freeman, Manna, Stylianou, Zamechansky-present
Mayor McHale-present

Motion to Accept Agenda as presented: Councilman Stylianou
Second: Councilman Freeman
All in favor.

Police Chief Venezia, Mayor McHale and Police Commissioner Manna presented CPR Certificates to Officer Martin Lisanti and Officer Brian Joyce. The Chief stated that on September 5, 2010 Officers Lisanti and Joyce were dispatched to 82 Cedar Road. The resident had stopped breathing and was unresponsive. The officers started CPR. The patient became responsive and the officers continued assistance until the Dumont Ambulance arrived. It is due to the officers' actions that Mrs. Fortelli is alive.

Fire Chief Byrd and Assistant Chief Molinaro presented Administrator Perkins with a plaque.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion to approve the November 23, 2010 Executive meeting minutes: Councilman Manna
Second: Councilman Freeman

Roll call vote: Council members Carrick, Caspare, Freeman, Manna, Stylianou, Zamechansky-yes

November 23, 2010 Public Meeting minutes (pulled)

Motion to approve the November 23, 2010 Closed Session minutes: Councilman Stylianou
Second: Councilman Carrick

Roll call vote: Council members Carrick, Caspare, Freeman, Manna, Stylianou, Zamechansky-yes

Motion to approve the December 7, 2010 Executive Session minutes: Councilwoman Zamechansky

Second: Councilman Freeman

Roll call vote: Council members Carrick, Freeman, Manna, Stylianou, Zamechansky-yes
Councilman Caspare abstained

Administrator Perkins' Report

Air quality samples were taken at the DPW by T&M, Borough Engineers, and results were that all exposure limits are below the OSHA standards. The DPW staff was informed yesterday.

The Bussell Court and Short Street projects have been completed thanks to Mr. Carrino staying on top of the project and the construction company. The project came in under budget.

The Borough Hall and DPW had electrical upgrading through PSE&G. Clean Energy paid 60% and the Borough was approved for a \$20,000 grant. The entire out of pocket expense will be approximately \$1,000. Mr. Perkins was informed that the savings for Borough Hall would be \$7,262 annually and for the DPW \$9,749 annually.

Veridian is supplying the electricity to Borough Hall at a substantial savings.

An extension has been granted for the handicap access project for the Senior Center and the Library due to the cold weather.

The savings last quarter for seniors using the POPS prescription plan was approximately \$3,882.

The Borough will be receiving \$156,000 from FEMA soon.

The Borough received a \$5,925 refund from Concrete Construction for the Washington Virginia project.

Council Committee Reports

- Councilman Caspare

Ambulance Corps

There was a meeting December 14, 2010. In attendance was Ron Hayden, Councilwoman Zamechansky, Chief Venezio and himself. Next year the Ambulance Corps will be replacing some windows, refrigerator and oven.

The situation at Healthnet on Knickerbocker Road is working out much better since it was addressed a couple of months ago.

Fire Department

The total man hours was 492 and total alarms were 26 in November.

- Councilman Freeman

Library

The annual employee appreciation dinner was held December 10th. The Councilman and CFO Giotis attended.

Joint Land Use

There was an application for a subdivision into two single family units on Dixon Avenue, which was denied.

An application for an addition to a single family dwelling on Johnson Avenue was approved.

An application for a subdivision on New York Avenue was continued to the next meeting-December 28th.

Board of Education

They are beginning to look at the budget for next year. They are reviewing items which were discussed last year, one of which is redistricting.

- Councilman Manna

Police

The Dispatch Center received 3,700 calls in November. There were nine domestic violence incidents; the crisis team was activated on one occasion.

Last week the Board of Education and the Police were faced with a bomb threat. Investigation identified a student in the district who allegedly made the threat.

Finance

The Governor today signed the Arbitration Reform Act. This still leaves at least twenty items needed to be addressed by the Legislature for the toolkit to be used by the municipalities for their budgets

- Councilman Carrick

DPW

They are ready for snow.

Board of Health

He attended the last meeting

Shade Tree Commission

They are looking for grants.

Memorial Day Parade

The original route has been reinstated. Councilwoman Zamechansky, Councilman Stylianou, Rafael Riquelme and others have been helping out.

- Councilwoman Zamechansky

Senior Citizens

They will have a New Year's Eve party at the Senior Center.

Recreation

Sign-ups will take place in January for senior baseball, softball and co-ed volleyball for Dumont residents 35 and older

Celebrations

The Winter Festival was a great success. This year there was a petting zoo. The Gulf Station on the corner of Grant and Washington donated the money for it. There were about ten donations from various places in town.

The Councilwoman thanked the Fire Department, DPW, Bill Bowen, Police, Recreation Commission, Ambulance Corps and the many volunteers.

- Councilman Stylianou

Rent Leveling Board

They received their first tenant complaint. There was a great deal of discussion on how to handle these types of matters.

Environmental Commission

The December meeting was cancelled due to scheduling conflicts among some of its members.

5K Run

Although the Run does not occur until September, there will be a meeting of the committee soon.

Mayor's Report

Mayor McHale commended Councilwoman Zamechansky and her team on a phenomenal job on the Winter Festival. It is now a Dumont tradition.

Review of Consent Agenda Items: All items with an asterisk are considered to be non-controversial by the Council and will be approved by one motion. There may be further

discussion prior to the vote upon request of a member of the public or a Council member. Also, any item may be removed for further discussion or for roll call vote in which case the item will be removed and considered in its normal sequence as part of the general order of business.

RESOLUTIONS

#10-291 Terance L. Baierwalter-Accept Application as Member of Dumont Fire Department *

#10-292 Timothy Baierwalter-Accept Resignation from Dumont Fire Department *

#10-293 Robert Guevara-Accept Application as Member of Dumont Fire Department *

#10-294 Seth Grubecki-Accept Resignation from Dumont Fire Department *

#10-295 Joseph Fasano- Accept Resignation from Dumont Fire Department *

#10-296 John J. Morgan-Hire as School Crossing Guard-\$14.25 per hour * Councilman Freeman explained that this is a replacement, not an addition.

#10-297 John P. Perkins-Approval of Three Year Contract * Councilman Freeman stated that he compared Mr. Perkins' salary with other administrators' salaries and found that his salary is at or below other towns in Bergen County. Givebacks are also included in his contract.

#10-298 Approval of Tax Appeal Settlement-Block 601, Lot 12 *

#10-299 Approval of Tax Appeal Settlement-Block 1201, Lot 20 *

#10-300 Approval of Tax Appeal Settlement-Block 1215, Lot 13 *

#10-301 Approval of Tax Appeal Settlement-Block 1220, Lots 14,15, and 30 *

#10-302 Authorization of Transfer Between Budget Appropriations *

#10-303 Bills List (non-consent agenda)

#10-304 Resolution to Exempt the Reserve for Uncollected Taxes from the 2% Cap (non-consent agenda)

#10-305 Cancellation of General Capital Fund Grant Receivables and Unexpended Improvement Authorization Balances * Mr. Perkins explained that dating back to the 1990's there were certain grants and projects undertaken by the Borough. When the project is underwritten by a grant, the Borough has to apply for reimbursement. In some instances there was no request for reimbursement. Because the project is completed, the funds not reimbursed get cancelled. The Borough still owes it. This is considered an uncollectible. In this case we have approximately \$185,000 from a number of grant and projects, which has to be raised through taxes in order to wipe out those uncollectibles. This amount will be paid off over a period of three to five years.

10-306 General Wireless Communication Tower Lease Rights Assignment-Authorization to Advertise for RFP *

#10-307 Approval of ADS Payroll Service Contract *

Motion: Councilman Stylianou

Second: Councilman Freeman

Motion to open to the public on Consent Agenda: Councilman Carrick

Second: Councilman Manna

All in favor.

1. Matt Krueger, 111 Thompson Street, asked for an explanation of Resolution #302. He also asked whether there has been an increase in tax appeals this year. He also asked whether there is any way to terminate Mr. Perkins' contract.
2. Kai Chen, 90 Teak Road, asked the reduction due to Resolutions 298-301.

Motion to close: Councilman Carrick

Second: Councilwoman Zamechansky

All in favor.

Roll call vote: Council members Carrick, Caspare, Freeman, Manna, Stylianou, Zamechansky-yes

Non-consent Agenda

#10-303 Bills List

Motion: Councilman Manna

Second: Councilwoman Zamechansky

#10-304 Resolution to Exempt the Reserve for Uncollected Taxes from the 2% Cap. Mayor McHale explained that prior to 2009, 2010 the reserve for uncollected taxes was exempt from the cap. Under the new governor and the legislature that reserve has been put under the 2% cap. While this Borough has not had to rely on that exemption for quite some time since our tax collection rate is as high as it is, it is a tool that could be effective should we need to do it. It is a non-binding resolution.

Motion: Councilman Stylianou

Second: Councilwoman Zamechansky

Councilman Freeman stated that after explanation he does not understand this resolution and will reach out to the Borough auditor.

Motion to open to the public: Councilman Carrick

Second: Councilman Stylianou

All in favor.

Motion to close: Councilman Stylianou

Second: Councilman Carrick

All in favor.

Roll call vote on #10-303: Council members Carrick, Caspare, Freeman, Stylianou-yes

Council members Manna and Zamechansky-abstained

Roll call vote on #10-304: Council members Caspare, Manna, Stylianou, Zamechansky-yes

Council members Carrick and Freeman-abstained.

Councilman Stylianou had another obligation and excused himself at 7:55 PM.

Motion to open to the public: Councilman Carrick

Second: Councilman Freeman

All in favor.

1. Matt Krueger, 111 Thompson Street, asked if there are defibrillators at our parks and ball fields.
2. Sabino Rodano, 111 Cresskill Avenue, asked about the DEP, DPW issue and whether any test results have come back. He asked whether October was the first time the Mayor made a public statement about missing files. When were the files discovered missing? Were the files present when the Mayor took office? Was any company hired to store files offsite? Have any companies been hired to convert paper to electronic? Have there been any Attorney General or Governor responses to the Mayor's letters? He also asked whether resolutions and ordinances could be put on the website prior to the Mayor and Council meetings so that the public can review them.

Councilman Carrick asked the reason we first looked for the DPW files. Mr. Perkins explained it was due to an unexpected visit from the DEP asking about a project they were hoping could be closed out. This issue was years old and we were not aware of it. There

had been no reason to look for the files previously because we did not know the file was still open.

Motion to close to the public: Councilman Carrick

Second: Councilman Manna

All in favor.

Mayor McHale read the resolution to go into closed session to discuss potential litigation

Motion: Carrick

Second: Manna

Roll call vote: Council members Carrick, Caspare, Freeman, Manna, Zamechansky-yes

Councilman Stylianou-absent.

Meeting recessed to executive chambers.

Motion to go back into public: Councilman Carrick

Second: Councilman Freeman

All in favor.

Motion to adjourn: Councilman Carrick

Second: Councilman Freeman

All in favor

Meeting adjourned at 8:20PM

Minutes respectfully submitted by:

Susan Connelly, RMC

Borough Clerk